**Gershwin Corresponding Questions** name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Assignment #1

Use the Alan Charlton article to answer these questions.

1. **Background** (for context information): On his trip to Europe, which neo-classical composers did Gershwin meet?

1. Name other composers he met.
2. **Form and Structure.** Define the term ‘tone poem.’ (What are tone poems based on?) During which century was this form developed? During which Western Art musical era did this occur?
3. In what way is *An American in Paris* programmatic?
4. What binds the work together? How many main parts 9sections are there in this work?
5. How many main themes are in section ‘A’?
6. How many main themes are in section ‘B’?
7. (We will also discuss these questions in class). Refer to page 4 in the Charlton article

>What is theme A1 called? Why? What does it depict?

>What is theme A2 called? Why? What does it depict?

>What is theme A3 called? Why? What does it depict?

>What is theme A4 called? Why? What does it depict?

>What is theme A5 called? Why? What does it depict?

>What is theme B1 called? Why? What does it depict?

>What is theme B2 called? Why? What does it depict?

1. For class discussion: Briefly describe and analyze the melodic characteristics of each theme.

~turn page for assignment #2~

**Gershwin Corresponding Questions** name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Assignment #2

Materials needed: Use the IB BACCpack (with handwritten themes on the cover), the Charlton article, and the score for An American in Paris.

Directions: Color themes A1 through A5 and B1 and B2 in the score. Name the themes and list descriptive phrases.

Assignment #3 Essay due on April 21, 2015

For Gershwin’s *An American in Paris*, write an essay which incorporates all of the following tasks:

* State the styles of music that influenced this work.
* Briefly describe the context and programmatic nature of the work.
* Describe the form of this work. List how many sections there are and describe what musical material binds the work together.
* Analyze each main theme. Describe the purpose or mood for each theme. Describe the melodic qualities of these themes. Give location points.
* Explain one way that this work was influenced by music of the Romantic Era.
* Give harmonic examples that demonstrate how this work was influenced by twentieth century neo-classical styles. Give location points.
* Explain examples that reflect Gershwin’s jazz and blues influences. Give location points.
* Explain how Gershwin achieves contrast in texture, mood and dynamics. Give location for each example.